

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1-31. (Canceled)

32. (Previously presented): A substantially homogenous sized *Neisseria meningitidis* serogroup B capsular oligosaccharide (MenB OS)/CRM₁₉₇ toxoid glycoconjugate produced by a method comprising:

- (a) providing a heterogenous population of MenB OS in which sialic acid residue N-acetyl groups are replaced with saturated N-propionyl groups;
- (b) obtaining a substantially homogenous sized group of MenB OS from the population of step (a) wherein said MenB OS have an average degree of polymerization (Dp) of about 12 to 18;
- (c) covalently attaching a C3-C16 long-chain aliphatic lipid to the nonreducing end of the MenB OS obtained in step (b);
- (d) introducing a reactive group at the reducing end of the MenB OS obtained in step (b) to provide single end-activated MenB OS of said DP; and
- (e) covalently attaching the single end-activated MenB OS obtained in step (d) to a CRM₁₉₇ bacterial toxoid carrier molecule to provide the substantially homogenous sized MenB OS/CRM₁₉₇ toxoid glycoconjugate.

33-49. (Canceled)

50. (Previously presented): A substantially homogenous sized *Neisseria meningitidis* serogroup B capsular oligosaccharide (MenB OS) glycoconjugate produced by a method comprising:

- (a) providing a heterogenous population of MenB OS in which sialic acid residue N-acetyl groups are replaced with N-C₃-C₈ acyl groups;

- (b) obtaining a substantially homogenous sized group of MenB OS from the population of step (a) wherein said group of MenB OS has an average degree of polymerization (Dp) of about 10 to 20;
- (c) introducing a reactive group at the reducing end of the MenB OS obtained in step (b) to provide single end-activated MenB OS of said DP; and
- (d) covalently attaching the single end-activated MenB OS obtained in step (c) to a protein carrier molecule to provide the substantially homogenous sized MenB OS glycoconjugate.

51. (Previously presented): The glycoconjugate of claim 50, wherein the reactive group introduced in step (c) comprises an active ester group.

52. (Previously presented): The glycoconjugate of claim 50, wherein the protein carrier molecule is a bacterial toxoid.

53. (Previously presented): The glycoconjugate of claim 52, wherein the bacterial toxoid is a nontoxic mutant bacterial toxoid.

54. (Previously presented): The glycoconjugate of claim 53, wherein the nontoxic mutant bacterial toxoid is CRM197.

55. (Previously presented): The glycoconjugate of claim 50, wherein the MenB OS has an average degree of polymerization (Dp) of about 12 to about 18.